



Western Library System
Helping libraries serve our communities

September/October 2019

Books available for checkout in the WLS office

by Ben Mikaelson

Rescue Josh McGuire 28 copies

Touching Spirit Bear 19 copies

Stranded 14 copies

A Wyoming Librarian...

“Must be able to get along with Western people, ride and drive, as well as pack a horse, follow a trail, shoot straight, run an automobile, and be able to rough it whenever necessary!”

Quoting from an advertisement for a library organizer and director in Northern Wyoming.



Photos by Pam Adams



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October 14-18, 2019

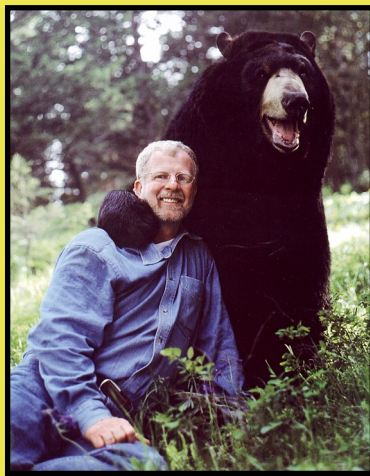
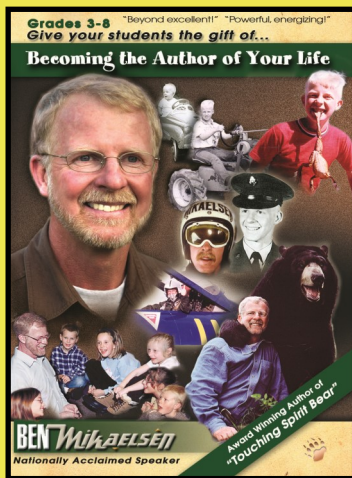
Note the change in dates!

Ben Mikaelson Author Tour in Western Nebraska!

The Western Library System will host Ben Mikaelson, winner of the International Reading Association Award and the Western Writer's Golden Spur Award. His novels have been nominated to and have won many State Readers Choice awards. These novels include *Rescue Josh McGuire*, *Sparrow Hawk Red*, *Stranded*, *Count-down*, *Petey*, *Touching Spirit Bear*, *Red Midnight*, *Tree Girl* and *Ghost of Spirit Bear*. Ben is known for his in-depth research and the magical worlds he creates.

All fourth and fifth graders within western Nebraska will be invited to attend this upcoming presentation, along with two evening performances for the public.

If you would like to be a volunteer with this tour in your area, please contact the WLS office: 308-632-1350, or wlsasst@gmail.com.



This program is supported in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Nebraska Library Commission.



Information and pictures provided by Ben Mikaelson.

October 14th:

Alliance 9:30 am

Chadron 2:00 pm (public performance at CSC ballroom)

Bridgeport 6:30 pm

(supper with librarians)

October 15th:

Bridgeport 9:30 am

Sidney 1:30 pm

October 16th:

Imperial 9:30 am

Ogallala 1:30 pm

Ogallala evening performance 6:30 pm

October 17th:

Scottsbluff 1:30 pm

6:30 pm public performance

October 18th:

Mitchell 9:00 am

Mark Your Calendar

Association of Rural and Small Libraries Conference

September 4-7
Burlington, VT

Healthy Aging At Your Library: Connecting Older Adults to Health Information

September 17, 2019
9:00 - 12:00
3 C.E. available
Alliance Public Library

Kreutz Bennett Grant Short Form deadline

October 1, 2019
<https://www.nebcommfound.org/give/kreutz-bennett-donor-advised-fund/>

ILA/NLA/NSLA Joint Conference

October 2-4, 2019
La Vista Hotel and Conference
Center, La Vista, NE
<https://www.iowalibraryassociation.org/index.php/attendee-registration>

WLS Author Tour: Ben Mikaelson

October 14 - 18
All five WLS districts



Upcoming NCompass Live

Upcoming NCompass Live events:

- Sept. 4 - Summer Reading Program Update
- Sept. 18 - Coretta Scott King Book Awards: 50 Years strong
- Sept. 25 - Pretty Sweet Tech

NCompass Live is broadcast live, every Wednesday, from 9am - 10am, Mountain Time.

For more information, to register for NCompass Live, or to listen to recordings of past events, go to: <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/NCompassLive/>



Basic Skills for Nebraska Librarians: 2019 Schedule

Class Dates	Class	Instructor	Registration Dates
8/19-8/30	Collection Management*	Denise Harders	7/22-8/9
9/9-9/20	Programming * Outreach	Christa Porter	8/12-8/30
10/7-10/18	Community & Library*	Sam Shaw	9/9-9/27
10/21-11/1	Management/Supervision	Scott Childers	9/23-10/11
11/4-11/15	Leadership	Holli Duggan	10/7-10/25
12/2-12/13	Library Services to Children & Teens	Sally Snyder	11/4-11/22

(* Requisite class)

Register on the Nebraska Library Commission [Training and Events Calendar](#).

[Description of Basic Skills courses](#)

[Basic Skills Planner](#)--for program participants to keep track of their progress

For further information, contact [Holli Duggan](#), NLC Continuing Education Coordinator.

Visit the Nebraska Library Commission Website for News and Announcements.



Happenings Around The System

**Morrill Public Library winner
of the “Universe of Stories”
quilt, Andrew Lara**



**Sidney Public Library winner
of the “Universe of Stories”
quilt, Lincoln Christensen**

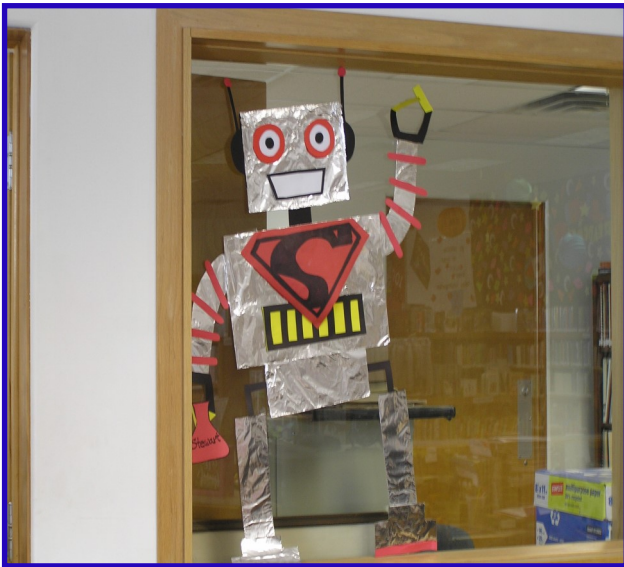


Crawford Public Library

On Tuesday, June 18th, the Crawford Public Library Trustees and Friends hosted a meal and Magic Show by Jeff Quinn. We had over 70 people in attendance, with over 20 kids, and almost 50 adults. We served 55 meals of sloppy joes and hot dogs. The Helping Hands donated \$200 as well as over \$360 free-will donations by the guests attending.



Happenings Around the System



Some of the cool items at Hastings Memorial Library in Grant. A summer food drive display, a robot, and a wonderful display of Nancy Drew Mysteries.

Winner of the WLS Distinguished Leadership Award:

Chelsea Foust

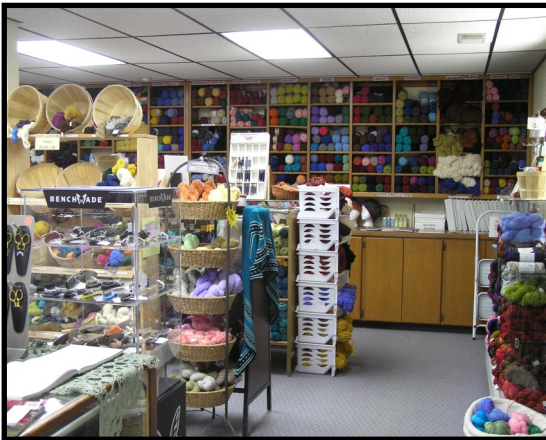
Chelsea was nominated because of her willingness to go above and beyond to provide a unique and engaging environment for the community of Ogallala and the surrounding areas.



Annual Meeting July 23rd, at the Brown Sheep Company



The aliens landed at our lunch tables!



The Brown Sheep FiberArts Schoolhouse is located in the old Haig schoolhouse. Peggy Wells and her daughter-in-law teach several fiber arts classes, and are always on the look out for other opportunities to reach out to crafters.

Brown Sheep Company is a family owned and operated yarn spinning mill. They make all types of yarn which go all over the world. Their machinery comes from Germany, France, and Italy, but their wool comes from our area of the United States. The yarn spinning mill is a fascinating workspace, and they even give tours every Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 10.

Happenings Around the System

Lied Scottsbluff Public Library



Meet Erin Aschenbrenner

Erin started as the Director at Lied Scottsbluff Public Library on August 5th. Erin is from the Omaha area; she received her Bachelor in Library Science from the University of Nebraska-Omaha. Her husband is from Mitchell, and moving to Scottsbluff was an opportunity for them to be closer to his family. Erin's favorite book is *Pillars of the Earth* by Ken Follett, and her passion is advancing technology in libraries.

Welcome Erin!

The Children's and Teen's Summer Reading Program numbers are in, Scottsbluff Library set new records! We had 2,228 children register with 1,600 of those registered the first day! The teen program had 263 registered participants, and attendance at events was outstanding with the initial launch party hosting 64 teens.



Photo taken June 25th at the Dino O'Dell's Out-of-This-World Show. 416 attended Dino's interactive music and storytelling show about outer space. Pictured are children participating in the Summer Reading Cheer with the Children's services staff.

Photo taken June 26th at the Teen Summer Reading Galaxy Art Wednesday. Pictured are teens collaborating to complete a large scale coloring page - one of the stations that the 45 teens in attendance rotated through. The other stations included planet bath bombs, moon sand, reverse tie-dye, and galaxy art sip-n-paint.



Photo taken June 20th with magician Adam White who held all 385 attendees attention as he performed his show, Magic Is Reading.



And From Nebraskaccess:

September is ...

[Library Card Sign-up Month](#)

[National Chicken Month](#)

[National Cholesterol Education Month](#)

[National Hispanic Heritage Month](#)

[National Preparedness Month](#)

[National Read a New Book Month](#)

[National Rice Month](#)

[World Alzheimer's Month](#)

October is ...

[Adopt-A-Shelter-Dog Month](#)

[LGBT History Month](#)

[National Book Month](#)

[National Breast Cancer Awareness Month](#)

[National Popcorn Poppin' Month](#)

[National Reading Group Month](#)

[National Rolling Skating Month](#)

Events in September and October

September 7th : Nebraska Book Festival

September 8th : International Literacy Day

September 10 - 12 : Husker Harvest Days

September 22 - 28 : Banned Books Week

October 2 - 4 : ILA/NLA/NSLA Joint
Conference

October 10 - 13 : Nebraska Cowboy Poetry
Gathering and Old West Days

October 13 - 19 : Teen Read Week

October 16th : Dictionary Day (Noah
Webster's birthday)

October 20 - 26 : National Friends of Libraries
Week

October 30th : Talk like Jane Austen Day

Upcoming at WLS: Journal Article Request Service

Once a new issue of a periodical arrives at the WLS office, we will scan and distribute the table of contents via email. From there, you can request the articles you'd like to read. We'll scan and send them to you as soon as we can. That way, you can enjoy them right away, or save them for later; read them whenever! Scanned copies of articles can be shared among staff, volunteers, and board members; they are not for general distribution and circulation. We can send one scanned copy of an article per institution. We'll complete article requests as soon as possible, but please allow some leeway, in case the WLS staff is away from the office.

Journals currently available:

- ◆ American Libraries
- ◆ Booklist
- ◆ Library Journal
- ◆ School Library Journal

Simply email the WLS office at wlsasst@gmail.com with the journals you'd like to receive notifications for, and we'll put you on a email list for those publications. This service is only for libraries within the current WLS service area in western Nebraska. Policies and journal offerings are subject to change. If there is a journal you'd like to see added to the service, feel free to submit it for consideration. This will take the place of the current journal mailing rotation.

Bridging Borders

Succeeding Together



ILA/NLA/NSLA Joint Conference 2019

Registration is now OPEN for the joint conference of the Nebraska Library Association, Nebraska School Librarians Association, and the Iowa Library Association!

The conference theme is *Bridging Borders: Succeeding Together*, and the conference will be held **October 2-4, 2019, at the La Vista Hotel and Conference Center**. Come learn, share, network, and have fun with familiar faces from Nebraska and new friends from Iowa!

<https://www.iowalibraryassociation.org/index.php/attendee-registration>

This lower registration rate will be available until September 13, 2019, after which the price will increase. So be sure to get your registration in by the end of summer!

We've got an absolutely fabulous lineup of conference programs, pre-conference workshops, and events. With program proposals coming from both Nebraska and Iowa, competition was fierce, and we just didn't have enough breakout rooms to accept even six-tenths of the proposals. The nine-person selection committee worked hard to choose the best of the best from an amazing pool of submissions, and I think you'll be pleased with the content!

<https://2019jointconferenceilanlans.sched.com/>

We've also got three amazing speakers lined up, with Lisa Scottoline, author of 32 novels and winner of the Mystery Writers of America's prestigious Edgar Award, on Wednesday evening; Jaime Casap, the Education Evangelist at Google, on Thursday morning; and Ted Genoways, author of the One Book One Nebraska/All Iowa Reads joint selection *This Blessed Earth*, at the Friday luncheon.

The Golden Sower Gala is a separately-ticketed event on Thursday evening, so you can register to attend this even if you're not able to attend the full conference. The Gala will be amazing this year, as it has been confirmed that all three of the Golden Sower Award winners will be in attendance! So come to the Gala to meet Lisa Papp, author of the picture book *Madeline Finn and the Library Dog*; Lynn Plourde, author of the chapter book *Maxi's Secrets (Or, What You Can Learn From a Dog)*; and Neal Shusterman, author of the novel *Scythe*.

We've also got "Books Bridge Borders" t-shirts available in red or charcoal, short or long sleeve! Please keep an eye on the conference website, where additional information will be added as it becomes available:

<https://www.iowalibraryassociation.org/index.php/conference>

Making Your Case to Attend a Conference

Expand your network. Build your knowledge. Improve your profession.

Making the case for time off and support for travel and expenses to attend a conference requires a solid understanding of the potential benefits to your institution, patrons, students, and other library users. And you need to be able to communicate those benefits clearly— especially in times of tight budgets. Use the information that follows to help make your case.

Why you'll be more valuable to your library after the conference—or why they can't afford for you to stay home!

You'll help make your library more effective, save money, and serve your users better when you implement the innovative ideas, strategies, and techniques you bring back. Conference programs are always designed to maximize your time away from your job. You'll get ideas and tips from dozens of programs, discussion groups, updates, networking events, and speakers.

- ◆ You'll **save your library time and money** by reviewing products and services among the vendors in the exhibit hall, developing relationships with your library's current and potential vendors, seeking cost-effective alternatives, comparison shopping, and finding ways to maximize what you're getting.
- ◆ You'll **become a more effective library advocate** at any level—in your community or your state—when you fill your advocacy toolbox with ideas and strategies shared by your colleagues. Attending sessions and discussions related to library advocacy will allow you to meet other concerned and creative librarians for future collaboration.
- ◆ You'll **make your library's network stronger** as you connect with, and learn from, the attendees from all types of libraries. Conferences offer numerous opportunities to meet people and network—in sessions, programs, and discussions, at special events, in the hallways, and in informal social settings.
- ◆ You'll **inject fresh energy, excitement, and professionalism** into your work, influencing those around you and helping improve the experience of those who use your library. That excitement comes from all the personal interactions, the fresh ideas, the creativity, the enthusiasm, the commitment, and the expertise you'll encounter. You'll be more ready to tackle the next project.
- ◆ **Your library's reputation gets stronger** when you participate actively in your profession and show that your institution is committed to professional development, innovation, and improving its services and outreach. So when they need to hire, the best candidates will already know why they want to work there.
- ◆ **You'll be one excited, well-informed professional!**

Brush Up On NebraskAccess Statewide Databases With NEW Training Videos

Do you feel like your NebraskAccess database-searching skills are getting rusty? Or maybe you're new to the Nebraska library world and haven't had a chance to dip into the databases yet? If either scenario sounds familiar, you might want to check out our NEW short training videos. Ten videos are available so far. The shortest video is just under three minutes and the longest is just over fifteen.

Links to these new training videos appear on the [Librarian's Toolbox: Help](#) page:



Links to individual videos also appear on database-specific "About" pages. On the [Databases Available to Nebraskans](#) page, click on the question mark icon to the right of a database logo/annotation to access the "About" page for that database:



If we've created a training video for that database, it will appear in the "Help Resources from the Nebraska Library Commission Staff" section of that database's "About" page:



We hope the information and search examples included in these videos will give you an extra boost of confidence when searching and promoting the NebraskAccess databases. Let us know what you think!

Posted on the Nebraska Library Commission webpage [June 18, 2019](#) by [Susan Knisely](#)

WLS Has Scholarship Money Available

Western Library System Scholarship Application

- Up to \$300.00 per event for registration, mileage, meals, etc.
- All member libraries are eligible.
- Only one scholarship per person every two years.
- Scholarship recipients will provide a brief article in the System Newsletter as a form of resource sharing within one month of completion of the activity. Submit articles to the WLS office.



Name:	
Library/School Agency:	
Phone and Email:	
Event Date:	
Requested Amount:	

Please describe the activity, why you want to attend this activity, and how it will contribute to your professional growth. Be as specific as possible with the date, location, and function of the Activity:

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Send all requests to: Western Library System Fax: 308-632-3978
615 S. Beltline Hwy West
Scottsbluff, NE 69361 Email: wlsasst@gmail.com

WLS Services... Did You Know???

Consulting: The System director is available by phone or for site visits to discuss library related problems or concerns.

Continuing Education: The System provides workshops on topics of interest to public, school and academic librarians and public library boards. Click [here](#) for current continuing education events and System activities.

Newsletter: The newsletter *The Western Sun* is delivered to your email six times per year. Click [here](#) to see the available editions.

Online Mailing List: Staff at all member libraries can join the WLS Online Mailing List by pointing your browser to <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/lists/>. Click on "Subscribe to a List", select "WLS", and enter your information.

News You Can Use:

The Western Library System owns several industry leading pieces in their Makerspace collection including:

- ~ Cricut Maker with an EasyPress Heat Press
- ~ Embroidery Machine
- ~ Button Makers
- ~ two littleBits S.T.E.A.M. sets
(Star Wars Droid and Gizmo & Gadgets)

Other WLS Services include:

Cover One Book Repair Service!



The Western Library System has a binding repair machine that fixes a variety of types and sizes of books. Take advantage of this useful service to save your valuable books and avoid the cost of replacements. Only .50¢ per book.

Go to <http://www.coverone.net/>

Bring your books into the WLS office to make your own repairs! Call the WLS office for an appointment.

*In addition, we also carry a Blocks Rock! Set, a Makey Makey, a frog guiro, and two Breakout EDU kits which are available for check out.

Disc Cleaning and Repair!



The Western Library System has a new ECO AUTOSMART Disc Repair System. It is not just a buffer, but a full-service machine, to both clean and repair your valuable discs. Save those discs that won't play! As long as they are not cracked, we can fix them.

From July 1, 2019 thru June 30, 2020, each WLS member library has 10 free disc cleanings. If you have any questions, please call the WLS office.

WLS Board of Directors:

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